

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 STR-04 CEA-01 IO-10 NEA-09 AGR-05

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R 090741Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4746

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

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E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS 7/7/75

TAGS: EAID, EFIN

SUBJECT: PROPOSED ADB TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR
OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN VEGETABLE RESEARCH PROJECT

DEPARTMENT PASS AID AND NAC AGENCIES

MANILA PASS USADB

1. EMBASSY STRONGLY ENDORSESD ADB MANAGEMENT'S
PROPOSAL TO FINANCE FOREIGN EXCHANGE COSTS OF
ASIAN VEGETABLE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER
(AVRDC) OUTREACH EXPERIMENTAL FIELD PROGRAM FOR
VEGETABLE RESEARCH IN KOREA, PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND.

2. DEDICATED IN OCTOBER 1973, AVRDC HAS MOVED AHEAD
RAPIDLY TO DEVELOP A RESEARCH AND TRAINING PROGRAM
WHICH PROMISES SEVERAL IMPORTANT BREAKTHROUGHS IN
CULTIVATION AND PRODUCTION OF SIX PRINCIPAL AREA
VEGETABLE CROPS. THROUGH MASSIVE CROSSINGS OF AN
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EXTENSIVE GERM PLASM COLLECTION, VERY HEARTENING

ADVANCES HAVE BEEN OBTAINED IN DISEASE AND INSECT RESISTANCE, HEAT TOLERANCE, IMPROVED PLANT TYPE AND ENHANCED YIELD AND NUTRITIONAL POTENTIAL. AVRDC HAS CONDUCTED BASIC BUT VERY PERTINENT RESEARCH IN PLANT PHYSIOLOGY, ENTOMOLOGY, PLANT PATHOLOGY AND BIOCHEMISTRY. AVRDC'S FINDINGS, ITS SEGREGATING LINES AND DATA ON IMPROVED PLANT TYPES, ON NUTRITIONAL VALUE AND ON MAJOR INSECTS AND DISEASES ATTACKING SIX CROPS SHOULD BE MADE AVAILABLE TO AVRDC PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES WHERE VARIETAL SELECTION FOR HOT, HUMID TROPICS, AS WELL AS COOLER CLIMES OF KOREA WOULD BE POSSIBLE.

3. ADB COMMITMENT OF \$390,000 TO AVRDC PROPOSED OUTREACH FIELD PROGRAM WOULD EXTEND AVRDC RESEARCH TO THREE ADDITIONAL COUNTRIES AND FURTHER AFFIRM ITS TRULY ASIAN CHARACTER. THE CENTER'S POTENTIAL FOR MAKING A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO INCREASING YIELD AND NUTRITIONAL QUALITY OF AREA PROTEIN CROPS AND TO BOOSTING FOOD SUPPLY IN EAST ASIA IS UNQUESTIONED. THEREFORE, EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THE PROPOSED ADB GRANT TO THE AVRDC OUTREACH PROGRAM. UNGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RESEARCH, VEGETABLES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TAIPEI01831
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750124-0571
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750465/aaaachwp.tel
Line Count: 84
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION TRSE
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED ADB TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR OUTREACH PROGRAMS IN VEGETABLE RESEARCH PROJECT
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, TW, RP, ADB
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006